

Chang, Lisa

From: Chang, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 2:19 PM
To: Bonifaci, Angela
Subject: RE: Notes from call with Larry W.

Hi Angela,

I would love to debrief with you on the conversation. It sounds like Larry was extremely adversarial and challenging; I am having a hard time processing the conversation. It would be very helpful to talk about next steps and prep for meeting with Larry, and who to involve.

Lisa

From: Bonifaci, Angela
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 1:22 PM
To: Opalski, Dan; Chang, Lisa
Subject: Notes from call with Larry W.

FYI...

Larry started off by asking Dennis how invested he was in the discussion on this issue, or should it be elevated?

Dennis emphasized that we believe this to be a policy issue, and not a legal issue.

Larry asked to hear from Dennis about his concerns.

Dennis - as he understands it, we have funded a website and now the Swinomish wish to expand the campaign to include other types of media. He has concerns about the use of NEP funds, and explained that we have to work with all of our partners, and can't take sides. Need to work with all stakeholders. The potential content is really driving our concerns. If the plan is to provide factual information, that is ok. But this seems a bit more confrontational.

Dennis asked me to add at this point and I reiterated the objective of an NEP management conference is to be collaborative, inclusive, and consensus based. I also spoke about the use of NEP funds vs. the use of their own funds for this type of thing. And also how this is all still very abstract, and that we could work together on the messaging to achieve desired outcomes.

Larry - been working on these issues for two decades. The Ag community is unresponsive. Need to reach out to unaffiliated public in order to educate them on the lack of regulations and the effect on water quality. Do not intend to reach out to the Ag community. Really want to do something "edgy" to drive the public to their website, which has been funded with \$500k of EPA money to-date. The grant was always headed in this direction, and was approved. He is happy to share documents with us, but emphasized that they are not doing anything different than what they said they were going to do. Including the increased use of media. He doesn't believe that this is something that EPA can choose to approve or not approve at this point.

Dennis - I hear what you are saying. Wants to seek middle ground and work together on the messaging.

Larry - Will provide a disclaimer on all products that while this is funded by EPA, it does not necessarily reflect our views. Spoke about the ongoing contract and the time issue. Need to figure this out quickly. There are no products to share at this point other than the website, which is about 80% complete. CWA does not have a good mechanism to deal with nonpoint Ag pollution. The messaging will be hard hitting. Suggested giving them 2 weeks to work with the folks developing the messaging in order to refine and draft final product and see if we can come to an agreement.

Dennis - suggests a hybrid where Larry can meet with Angela and Dan, and Marty (from the company that is working on this) earlier.

Larry - What he is hearing from EPA about protecting the "Big Tent" is not what they signed up for. He doesn't believe that we can legally stop them from using this money, since the project has been approved and moving forward for the past 5 years. What EPA is saying about how the Swinomish can or cannot be spent is not reflected in the contract.

Dennis - We hear your concerns. Let's try and reach a middle ground.

Larry - Asks us to think about getting a message out to the public about shortcomings in the regulation of the Ag industry leading to not meeting the CWA.

Dennis - Let's work together on the messaging. For example, we all love ice cream but don't like cows in the stream.

Larry - Will set up a meeting with Dan and Angela for next week.

Angela - I can help with that and include Lisa Chang and possible Jeff Philip.

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